

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E
Virtual Public Meeting
Tuesday, September 6, 2022**

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E convened via Zoom Video Conference and/or Telephone on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Michael Eichler (Chair), ANC 6E01
Alex Lopez (Secretary), ANC 6E02
Frank S. Wiggins (Treasurer), ANC 6E03
Rachelle Nigro (Vice Chair), ANC 6E04
Patrick Parlej, ANC 6E05
Denise Blackson, ANC 6E06
Kevin M. Rogers, ANC 6E07

Absent:

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Chair Michael Eichler with a quorum of 6 out of 7 Commissioners present. [Commissioner Rogers had not yet joined the call].

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Nigro seconded to approve the Agenda as submitted. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Nigro seconded to approve the Minutes of the **July 5, 2022 ANC 6E Public Meeting** with any edits to be submitted to the Recording Secretary. The Motion ***passed*** 5 yeas – 0 nays – 1 abstention (Commissioner Lopez).

MOTION: Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Wiggins seconded to approve the Minutes of the **August 3, 2022 Special ANC 6E Public Meeting** with any edits to be submitted to the Recording Secretary. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

4. PSA REPORT: METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT 1D

Lt. Phillip McHugh stated two significant events occurred on August 25, 2022 – a homicide at 7th and I Streets, NW – a suspect was identified and images released publicly. Two hours later, there was a shooting at 7th & H Streets, NW – two victims struck by gunfire. Both investigations are progressing. Crime for the month of August as compared to July shows a decrease in Motor Vehicle Thefts – down 46%; Thefts from Auto down 16%; Overall Theft down 11%. No increase or decrease in Robberies. Overall, things are trending in the right direction. MPD has dedicated resources such as the Crime Suppression Team and Mountain Bike Unit that have been deployed. Between the last week of August and the first week of September, over 20 arrests were made in the neighborhood for drug distribution, drinking in public, display of firearms, and urinating in public.

A question and answer period followed.

- Commissioner Nigro raised concerns about activities at the 7-Eleven on K Street, NW that will be discussed later in the meeting.
- Commissioner Parlej echoed Commissioner Nigro's concerns about the 7-Eleven and asked what is MPD's posture on this. He was informed there is a lot of spillover crime there and the store needs to be given special attention.
- Thais Austin, a resident at 555 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, stated she lives across from Chinatown Park and there are things stemming from the Park and the 7-Eleven such as crack pipes being lit and intrusions of strangers in her building.

[Commissioner Rogers joins the call.]

5. PSA REPORT: METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT 3D

Lt. Ross stated there was a juvenile shot in the 1800 block of 7th Street, NW and the case is still open. There was an arrest for possession of a high capacity magazine at 11th and Rhode Island Avenue, NW and an unauthorized use of a vehicle in the 1800 block of 7th Street. Approximately 17 arrests have been made in that area. Thefts from Auto and Robberies are trending down.

A question and answer period followed.

- Commissioner Wiggins asked what the source of the shootings is. He stated he saw a video showing an alleyway in the 700 block of N Street, NW where a gang of people were hanging out and large amounts of cash were being displayed.
- Commissioner Nigro asked what is being done on New York Avenue, NW as it relates to arresting people for urination and defecation.
- Commissioner Blackson asked whether the 10:00 p.m. curfew for teenagers is being enforced and was informed it was.

6. REPORT OF MAYOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND SERVICES (MOCRS)

Jasmine Coulton stated Hazle Crawford is no longer with MOCRS. She clarified that the shooting in the 1700 block of 7th Street, NW was a juvenile and the shooting in the 1800 block of 7th Street, NW was an adult. MOCRS did sweep those areas. **(1)** There has been an increase in funding for the Home Purchase Assistance Program (HPAP); **(2)** A Maternal and Infant Health Summit is being held on 9/15/22 at 9:00 a.m.; **(3)** MOCRS was involved in clearing the encampment; **(4)** MOCRS is working with MVT CID about the 7-Eleven concerns – doing consistent patrols in the area.

A question and answer period followed.

- Commissioner Nigro asked about Covid booster vaccinations and noted the DC Department of Health website needs to be updated, as it is listing outdated information on vaccination clinics.
- Commissioner Wiggins stated in the past he used to be notified whenever a shooting occurred and he is not receiving any updates. He asked if this could be reinstituted. Ms. Coulton informed him she will have all 6E commissioners added to the list.

7. REPORT FROM WARD 2 COUNCILMEMBER PINTO'S OFFICE

bpinto@dccouncil.us; 202-724-8058; <https://www.brookepintodc.com/>
Brian Romanowski, Constituent Services Director, bromanowski@dccouncil.us

Brian Romanowski reported the following: **(1)** The new school year is off to a good start and work is being done to improve security at Seton Elementary and Banneker High School, with Kipp Academy to follow; **(2)** There are Covid centers in each ward where residents can get tested, receive new Covid boosters and flu vaccines; **(3)** Continuing to offer free Monkeypox vaccinations to eligible residents; **(4)** Ward 2 Bike Ride on Saturday, October 1st; **(5)** Residential Parking Rezoning bill will have a hearing on Friday, October 28, 2022; **(6)** The DC Council recess ends September 15, 2022 and the next legislative meeting is on September 20, 2022; **(7)** The DC Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture is hosting a community walk tomorrow, September 7, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. in front of Howard Theater to address ongoing substance abuse and safety concerns there; **(8)** Tomorrow, September 7, 2022, the Council is switching domain names – the website and email addresses are switching from “.us” to “.gov” – please update your contacts.

8. REPORT FROM WARD 6 COUNCILMEMBER ALLEN'S OFFICE

Jeanne Mattison reported the following: **(1)** Committee on Transportation to mark up Metro for All bill – provides \$100 per month to DC residents and improves bus service in the District; **(2)** Internet Equity Bill – would require the DC Government to insure that everyone has access to highspeed, affordable

broadband; **(3)** Plaza West – MVT CID came up with a model to get MOCRS and the apartment manager involved to address chronic problems in the building; **(4)** Many bills coming related to public safety – omnibus bill expanding services to victims and survivors of crime.

9. REPORT FROM WARD 5 COUNCILMEMBER McDUFFIE’S OFFICE

The representative did not join the call.

10. PRESENTATION FROM MPD LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER LIAISON UNIT (LGBTLU)

Representative Present: Desiree Walker

Desiree Walker stated the LGBTLU has been in force for 20 years and has a dedicated full-time staff that focuses on the public safety needs of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and their allied communities. They conduct public education campaigns on issues related to hate crimes and public safety. Their primary focus is to gain the trust of the community and seek out information that leads to the closure of hate crime and violent crime within the LGBT community. They also serve Latinos and the deaf. We work with all the districts.

Commissioner Eichler asked about the attack on two gay men in the 1700 block of 7th Street, NW that involved slurs – bias based attack. He was informed the unit was aware of this and that incidents are higher during June (Pride Month), July and August.

11. PRESENTATION FROM DC WATER ON STORM WATER AND FLOODING MITIGATION

The representative did not join the meeting.

12. PRESENTATION BY DDOT AND REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR NOI 22-224-PSD – INSTALLATION OF TWO-WAY PROTECTED BIKE LANES ON 9TH STREET, NW

Representative Present: George Branyon, Active Transportation Branch
Manager DDOT
Mike Goodno, Bicycle Program Specialist, DDOT

A PowerPoint presentation was provided.

MOTION: Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Nigro seconded to support the proposed installation of two-way protected bike lanes between Pennsylvania Avenue, NW and Florida Avenue, W and that said support be communicated in writing to DDOT. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.

13. PRESENTATION FROM WALMART ABOUT THE 55 H STREET STORE RENOVATION

The representative did not join the meeting.

14. PRESENTATION FROM 7-ELEVEN ABOUT CONCERNS AT 504 K STREET, NW

Representatives Present: Jim Evans, Regional Director of Operations, NE, 7-Eleven
Alex Kelly

Jim Evans stated 7-Eleven is taking this matter very seriously. He received concerns from Commissioner Nigro and MVT CID's Kenyattah Robinson about cleanliness and operations of the store. They are committed to getting this right and have taken the following actions: **(1)** enacted 24/7 security; **(2)** installing better camera footage. 7-11 proposed to install a music device that would play opera music to deter loitering. This would require the consent of the ANC because a current voluntary agreement with ANC6E precludes 7-11 from playing amplified music outdoors. According to 7-11, the music device would be played during daytime hours and has actually helped curtail loitering incidents at other 7-11 locations. Commissioner Parlej pointed out that in 2021 7-11 did play this opera music for a period, and it was quickly met with noise concerns from the residential building across the street. Commissioner Parlej agreed to do community outreach to further study 7-11's proposal.

Commissioner Nigro stated she visits the store four (4) times a week and no one should be afraid to walk in the front door. She does, however, appreciate the efforts that have been taken – it is a great improvement.

Commissioner Parlej stated he has received backlash from his constituents about the music. Mr. Evans responded that they did look at the cases when the music was playing and the incidents were lower.

A question was raised as to whether there are any plans for the 7-Eleven store on Rhode Island Avenue, NW that had a fire a year ago.

15. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR RENEWAL OF A CLASS C RESTAURANT LICENSE – REBEL TACO, 508 K STREET, NW

Alex Padro stated the licensee recently opened and there is no investigative history. The ABC Licensing Committee met and recommended support of the renewal to the full Commission.

MOTION: Commissioner Parlej moved and Commissioner Nigro seconded that ANC 6E **support** the renewal of the Class C Restaurant License for Rebel Taco, 508 K Street, NW, and that said support be communicated in writing to ABRA. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

16. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR EXTENSION OF ZONING RELIEF BZA #19722, 925-927 5TH STREET, NW

Representatives Present: G. Evan Pritchard
Brad Kline

At its July 5, 2022 Public Meeting, ANC 6 opposed the extension request for zoning relief for BZA Order 19722 based on concerns about upkeep of the lot, trash, graffiti, and security.

Commissioner Nigro stated the Zoning Committee met last week and received a presentation from the applicant. Following the presentation, the Committee voted to recommend support to the full Commission.

The PowerPoint was presented to the full Commission and noted the following:

- o Trash has been removed and a gate installed to secure the site.
- o Site treated for rodents on August 4, 2022.
- o Vines and graffiti removed on August 22, 2022.
- o Site is monitored to ensure gate is maintained and no additional trash accumulates.
- o Hope to move forward with securing building permits as there are growing signs of the hotel industry recovering and continued interest has been expressed by investors.

MOTION: Commissioner Parlej moved and Commissioner Nigro seconded that ANC 6E withdraw its opposition and **support** the request for extension of zoning relief for BZA Order 19722 – 925-927 5th Street, NW, provided that the property owner keeps up with vegetation management, removal of graffiti and trash, and security of the property, and that said support be communicated in writing to the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA). The Motion **passed** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions. [Commissioner Rogers dropped off the call].

[Commissioner Rogers rejoins the call.]

17. RESOLUTION CALLING ON DDOT TO IMPLEMENT TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES AT THREE INTERSECTIONS IN ANC 6E WHERE TRAFFIC FATALITIES OCCURRED SINCE 2021

Commissioner Lopez presented a Resolution that calls on DDOT to implement traffic calming measures at three intersections in ANC 6E where traffic fatalities occurred since 2021 and requested ANC 6E support.

MOTION: Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Parlej seconded that ANC 6E adopt the letter as presented with some modifications to reference the New Jersey Avenue Safety Project and Cobb Park and communicate the letter to the Director of DDOT. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.

18. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

MOTION: Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded that ANC 6E support and approve the FY22 Q3 Financial Report (Apr-Jun 22) emailed on 9/5/22 which states that the ending balance in the checking account as of 6/30/22 was \$67,766.30. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.

MOTION: Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded that ANC 6E support and approve the FY22 Q4 Financial Report (Jul-Aug 22) emailed on 9/5/22 which states that the ending balance in the checking account as of 8/31/22 was \$67,348.41. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.

19. APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

MOTION: Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Blackson seconded to approve the following expenses: **(1)** reimbursement of \$34.13 to Commissioner Nigro for Agenda copies; **(2)** reimbursement of \$99.63 to Commissioner Eichler for the Zoom invoice; **(3)** payment of invoice in the amount of \$250.00 submitted by Karen Jehle for Minutes of the September 6, 2022 ANC 6E Public Meeting/Website Updating. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.

20. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Theresa DuBois stated Events DC will be participating in Shaw Main Street's Art All Night DC by hosting an activation on the west lawn of the Carnegie Library on September 24, 2022 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

21. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Eichler moved and Commissioner Blackson seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
(Transcribed from Recording)

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Recording Secretary
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